

Kelly Air Force Base Restoration Advisory Board Meeting
13 June 2000 6:00 p.m.
Greater Kelly Development Authority
Conference Room

Members/Alternates Present:

Community Members:

Dr. Gene Lené
RAB Community Co-Chair
Mr. Sam Murrah
Ms. Peggy Grybos
Mr. Paul Roberson
GKDA
Mr. Armando Quintanilla
Mr. Paul Person
Mr. Scott Lampright (Mr. Mixon's alt.)
Ms. Annalisa Peace
Mr. George Rice
Mr. Názirite Pérez

Public Members:

Mr. Adam Antwine (Mr. McCullough's alt.)
RAB Installation Co-Chair
Mr. Mark Weegar
TNRCC
Ms. Laura Stankosky
EPA
Mr. Sam Sanchez
SAMHD

Members Absent Without Alternate:

Mr. Roy Botello	Mr. Kent Iglesias
Ms. Tanya Huerta	Mr. Nicolas Rodriguez, Jr.
Mr. Alfred Rocha	Mr. Mark Puffer
Mrs. Dominga Adames	Mr. John A. Jacobi
Mr. Edward Weinstein	

I. Call to Order

- A. Mr. Adam Antwine, Acting Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.
- B. Mr. John Folk-Williams, Facilitator, asked the RAB members to introduce themselves.
- C. Mr. Folk-Williams described the meetings goals.
 1. Receive update on briefings on shallow groundwater.
 2. Receive report on support for county health issues.
 3. Give input and feedback on a proposal regarding the shallow groundwater that will assist in shaping the public input approach.
- D. Mr. Armando Quintanilla asked if the groundwater briefing included all of the groundwater problems that existed both inside and outside the boundary of Kelly. He also asked why the briefing had been given without the approval of the RAB.
- E. Mr. Antwine stated the briefing was similar to the presentations given approximately 60 times to area elected officials and other groups (i.e., PTAs and school boards). He explained the Air Force Base Conversion Agency (AFBCA) wanted the RAB's input before the presentation was to be given at a public meeting to be held 14 June 00.
- F. Mr. George Rice questioned the timing of the presentations. He stated he was under the impression that the RAB had attended workshops to help prepare this briefing and they would have input before it was presented to anyone. He asked if that plan had been thrown in the trash along with the possible RAB input.
 1. Mr. Folk-Williams announced there were plans for a session to complete the work of the fall RAB workshops.

- G. Mr. Antwine reiterated that this was the opportunity for the RAB to provide input and the resulting briefing would then be presented to the broader community.
- H. Mr. Quintanilla asked if anyone was taking notes for the RAB minutes and was informed "yes, notes were being taken for the development of meeting minutes."

II. Progress Report on Support for County Health Issues

A. Mr. Sam Sanchez, San Antonio Metropolitan Health District, reported his agency was receiving \$250K for a pilot health screen program. The program will demonstrate what can be done. He stressed this study could be a generator of future funding. Congressman Gonzales' office was instrumental in getting the funding from ATSDR. Twenty to 25 area clinics would participate, providing a good sampling for the program. They hoped to start by July or possibly the end of summer.

B. Discussion:

1. Q - Mr. Rice asked who was eligible to participate.
A - Mr. Sanchez stated anyone could participate and there would be no exclusions. The focus is on South San Antonio.
2. Q - Mr. Quintanilla asked what the cost per person would be?
A - Mr. Sanchez told him the figure was somewhere between \$75 to \$100 per person. Mr. Quintanilla stated if this is the case only about 2,400 people could be seen. He was reminded this program is a pilot and not meant as a total solution. Further, part of the reasons for this program is to determine if a more extensive study is necessary and use the program's success to request additional funding.
3. Q - Ms. Grybos asked what types of test would be included.
A - Mr. Sanchez told her the type of test would depend on the patient's need.
4. Q - Mr. Quintanilla asked if the results would be presented to the community.
A - He was told that the number of patients, cost, symptoms, would be briefed; however, no specifics that could identify specific patients will be provided. All of the patients will be given their results while they are there. Mr. Sanchez stressed again the results will show this type of study would work.
5. Q - Mr. Quintanilla asked if the RAB could participate in some way?
A - Mr. Sanchez said the RAB members are needed to get the information out. He asked that anyone who would like to help contact him after the meeting.

C. Mr. Roberson stated that this was a great step forward and made a motion that the RAB support the study. It was seconded by Mr. Quintanilla and passed unanimously.

III. GKDA Environmental Initiatives

A. Mr. Paul Roberson, Greater Kelly Development Authority (GKDA), presented information on Commercialization of Kelly's Environmental Process Control Facility. (See Attachment 1) The facility which processes Kelly AFB's industrial waste water will be needed to process commercial tenants waste water. GKDA has asked for its transfer to them. Once transferred it will be operated and maintained by United Water Services/Operational Technology. A new transport pipeline will be built and the old system will be flushed, sampled, and permanently sealed. The television public service announcement was played to show GKDA's efforts to keep the community informed.

B. Discussion:

1. Q - Mr. Rice asked if all of the old lines were aboveground.
A - He was told although some lines were in the ground they were all accessible. The new system would be entirely aboveground.
2. Q - Ms. Annalisa Peace asked if GKDA was planning a gray water system.

- A - The Air Force already built one and it is currently used to provide water for places like the base golf course.
- 3. Q - The status of the Kelly AFB water system was discussed with questions about the future ownership.
 - A - A more detailed information will be provided for the next RAB.
- 4. Q - Mr. Quintanilla asked if environmental insurance had been considered.
 - A - Mr. Roberson told the RAB GKDA had purchased a policy and it would be best explained at the next meeting.

IV. Southern Bexar County Shallow Groundwater Overview

- A. Mr. Tim Underwood, an AFBCA Contractor, presented the Kelly AFB, Environmental Issues, Community Input Briefing. (See Attachment 2) He explained the briefing was a 'library' of slides that were to be boiled down to what the community needed to hear. The RAB was being asked for their help in changing the briefing before it is presented to the community. The revised presentation will be used at the planned Public Meetings. The briefing is designed to draw out community input before the Air Force (AF) is required to submit its off-base groundwater remedy report to the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) in December 2000. The briefing provides background on the shallow groundwater problem and asks what kind of remedies does the community want the Air Force to propose in the report.
- B. It was reported various versions of the briefing had been given nearly 60 times to various elected officials, school boards, and other groups since the initial briefing on the shallow groundwater was given to the RAB in February.
- C. Discussion.
 - 1. The briefing was reviewed slide by slide with the majority of the RAB agreeing that it needed a major overhaul. Common comments: too long, too confusing, too many subjects, and no central theme.
 - 2. The RAB expressed concern over who should be included in constructing the briefing.
 - 3. The RAB generally felt the briefing is one-sided, telling only what the AF wanted told.
 - 4. Mr. Rice stated the AF had gone behind the RAB's back to the various groups who had received the briefing.
 - 5. Q - Mr. Paul Person asked why the RAB was the last to hear the presentation after the Air Force had sought political support.
 - 6. Q - Mr. Rice asked what part the GKDA was playing in receiving comments from briefing participants and if this meant that the AF is only taking comments from the GKDA.
 - A - Mr. Roberson agreed that by law GKDA is single voice for AFBCA to deal with; however, this is a total community issue.
 - 7. Q - Mr. Rice asked if the AF has adopted the Miter Tec Study.
 - A - The Air Force Representatives told him the data used in the report is the Air Force's and the interpretation is the professional opinion of the author.
 - 8. Q - Mr. Quintanilla asked about current benefits.
 - A - The AF had provided \$480M and part of the sum have been committed to source control and contamination removal.
 - 9. Mr. Quintanilla stated his reservations on the effectiveness of the briefing and all of the officials that received the original briefing should be contacted and informed that the RAB does not support the AF's position.
 - 10. Mr. Mark Weegar, TNRCC, stated the groundwater problem was not just a

community issue and that state law mandates "you pollute-you clean," and the community becomes involved when that pollution leaves the installation.

11. Ms. Annalisa Peace said that she had hoped the Kelly AFB cleanup would be a forum to present all issues to the community.

A 15 minute break was taken

V. Community Comment Period

- A. Mr. Nicholas Charles stated he was present to support the RAB, and to hear all that was going on. He's concerned because people were moving into the area not knowing about the contamination and now are really sick. He did not know he lived in an of contamination until he joined the union. Mr. Charles said the area children were having trouble in school and test scores were low; children, adults, and the elderly are really suffering and we have together and do things right. He also did not want a 30 year cleanup and wanted the AF to commit to a 6 year cleanup. He felt a 3 minute time limit to comment was not enough.
- B. Mr. Jose Zimmerle, Edgewood resident, said he wanted the Air Force to cleanup Kelly before they turned it over - 6 years at the most.
- C. Ms. Elsie Martinez read a prepared statement in Spanish. (See Attachment 3) She complained area residents were being ignored and it was a form of racial and class discrimination because they are poor. She also said health problems experienced by the people around the bases were not a coincidence:
- D. Ms. Socorro Covarubias submitted a written statement in Spanish. (See Attachment 4) The key points in the statement are:
 1. Hire a translator to translate the meeting proceedings as they occur.
 2. Make the meeting announcements in Spanish.
 3. Translate all materials into Spanish.
 4. Mail notices in Spanish and English to area residences.

Note: More than 12,000 meeting notices are mailed to area residences in Spanish and English for each meeting. A paid Spanish advertisement runs in 'La Prensa' for each regular meeting.
- E. Mr. Che Lopez, Southwest Workers Union Organizer, voiced and submitted in writing the following complaints (See Attachment 5):
 1. Community comments were scheduled for the end of the meeting and people can't stay that long. The community should get to speak first.
 2. The meeting place was too small and hard to get to. It appeared the meeting was hidden from the community.
 3. Only two or three RAB members are from the community and the board was dominated by AF representatives.
 - a) Ms. Peace offered her seat if any local community members wanted on the board. This is an offer she has made each time this issue has been brought in the past.

Note: Only one member of the RAB is an Air Force representative. Thirteen members are community members who do not represent a state, county or city government or quasi-government agency.
 4. Mr. Lopez read a prepared statement in Spanish. (See Attachment 6)

VI. Discussion: Proposal Regarding Shallow Groundwater

- A. Mr. Folk-Williams asked each RAB member, in turn, provide a single point of concern or a reaction to the briefing that could be used to improve it. (See Attachment 7)
- B. The comments can be summarized into six major points.
 1. The Air Force did not involve the RAB early enough in the briefing process and many

members felt the Air Force acted in bad faith by briefing so many others before the RAB.

2. The presentation message and purpose lacked focus and is unclear.
 3. The presentation was not balanced and told only the Air Force's side of the issues.
 4. There was confusion over the old rules and the new rules for cleanup. More clarification of the rules is needed.
 5. RAB members wanted to know what were the other sources of contamination.
 6. GKDA's role needed to be better explained.
- C. A motion was made, seconded, and passed asking the AF not to make any more presentations until the RAB could come to an agreement with the Air Force as to what should be presented.
- D. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to send a letter to the AF and everyone previously briefed by the AF expressing the RAB's concern with the presentation's content.
1. Dr. Lené agreed to draft the letter by the June Technical Review Committee. Mr. Rice volunteered to assist Dr. Lené.
 2. Mr. Antwine pointed out the briefing did not state or elude RAB support of the presentation.

VII. Meeting Wrap Up

- A. Mr. Folk-Williams mentioned the need for a special meeting or executive session for RAB members to discuss meeting rules, RAB and Air Force responsibilities, and come to closure on last fall's workshop. Dates will be looked for late July or early August.
- B. Although not discussed at the meeting the next regular RAB Meeting is tentatively scheduled for 29 August 2000 at Dwight Middle School.
- C. The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 p.m.

Motions/Resolutions

Motions

1. Motion was made to ask the Air Force not to make any more presentations until the RAB could come to an agreement with the Air Force as to what should be presented.
 - Passed
2. Motion was made to send a letter to the Air Force and everyone previously briefed by the Air Force expressing the RAB's concern with the presentation's content.
 - Passed unanimously

Attachments (*Provided at the meeting to all RAB members)

1. GKDA Environmental Initiatives *
2. Southern Bexar County Shallow Groundwater briefing slides*
3. Ms. Martinez's statement
4. Ms. Covarubias' statement
5. Mr. Ché Lopez's statement
6. List summarizing RAB member's comments/reactions to presentation